



# Henry County, Virginia

E-Newsletter from the official website of Henry County, VA

## Henry County Monthly Newsletter

### March 2009

#### **Jones to serve as County's Finance Director**

Darrell Jones, who has served as Henry County's Assistant Director of Finance since 2003, will take over the department's top position effective July 1.

Jones will replace Jimmie Wright, the County's long-time Director of Finance, who is retiring after 33 years' service.

Jones is a graduate of James Madison University with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is a Certified Public Accountant in Virginia and North Carolina and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants (VSCPA).

In 2005 Jones was named a "Super CPA" by Virginia Business magazine in the government/nonprofit division. Jones was one of 35 accountants statewide recognized in the category, and was the only one who worked for a local government.

"Darrell will replace a man in Jimmie Wright whom many of us thought would be irreplaceable," said County Administrator Benny Summerlin. "But we have seen Darrell's work ethic and dedication since 2003, and I know that he'll provide us with the same level of professional service and fiscally sound approach that Jimmie gave the County for the past 33 years."

Jones lives in Collinsville with his wife and two children.

#### **County employees complete Leadership Development Course**

Several employees recently graduated from a Leadership Development course through the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.

Mike Amos, Project Manager, PSA; Steve Clary, Wastewater Treatment Supervisor, PSA; Roy Hall, Lead Person/ Refuse Truck Driver, Henry County; and Pat McCain, Visitor Center Associate, M-HC EDC, were the County's graduates.

The ten-week program is designed to motivate potential leaders by providing information that acquaints them with opportunities and concerns within the community; introduces them to present leaders and encourages discussion and open exchange; builds realistic understanding of the roles of leadership in the community; and promotes teamwork essential for positive community involvement.

#### **Board of Supervisors sets goals**

The Henry County Board of Supervisors set short-term and long-term/continuing goals at its 2009 Planning Session on January 29. The lists are as follows:

##### Short-Term Goals

- Strategy for development for ROMA and Bryant properties
- Develop strategy for broadband implementation and funding options

- Position the County to deal with the FY 2011 Budget
- Preserve the County's fund balance
- Secure a new facility for the Social Services department
- Decrease unemployment and increase the number of available jobs
- Continue to pursue the 58 West water project
- Continue to pursue accreditation for the Sheriff's Office
- Continue to address response issues for rescue squads
- Work on stormwater issues and other issues with the South Street Community Development project

#### Long-Term/Continuing Goals

- Emphasize energy efficiency/green initiatives
- Promote community health care resources
- Address jail needs
- Seek federal money for the completion of Route 58 to Interstate 77
- Work with the Corps of Engineers to improve the flow of water through the Smith River
- Initiate a Comprehensive Plan update
- Work to improve "Community Pride"
- Work to improve our educational facilities
- Support the Martinsville-Henry County EDC and continue to fund its efforts, and support its tourism initiatives
- Push for Interstate 73 corridor as outlined by the Board in 2008
- Continue to pursue delinquent taxes
- Endorse and participate in regional cooperation
- Endorse and participate in cooperative efforts with City of Martinsville
- Continue to support the New College Institute and Patrick Henry Community College
- Continue to support Blue Ridge Airport

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